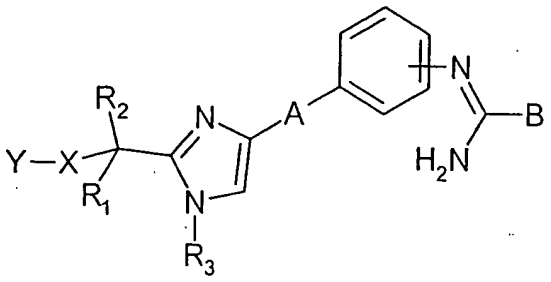
In the claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A compound of the formula



(I)

in the form of racemic, enantiomeric mixture of any combination of these forms,

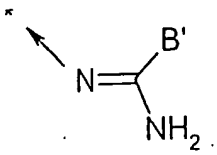
wherein

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl and aralkyl, the aromatic ring of which is optionally substituted from one to 3 times by a member chosen independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen~~,~~ and alkyl ~~and aralkyl~~;

X is selected from the group ~~consiting~~ consisting of a bond, alkylene of 1 to 5 carbon atoms;

Y is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, cycloalkyl, NR_4R_5, OR_{14}, SR_{15} and



or Y is selected from the group consisting of aryl optionally substituted from one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl and alkoxy;

A is selected from the group consisting of a bond or phenylene;

B and B' are independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, $-NR_6R_7$, $-SR_8$, carbocyclic aryl and heterocyclic aryl with 5 to 6 ring members having 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, S and N, said carbocyclic and heterocyclic aryl being optionally substituted by one to three members independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl and alkoxy,

R_3 is selected from the group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, $-C(O)R_9$, $-C(O)OR_9$, $-C(O)NHR_9$, $-SO_2R_9$ and aralkyl, the aromatic ring of which is optionally substituted one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and alkoxy, or R_4 is selected from the group consisting of *bis*-phenylalkyl,

R_5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl, or R_4 and R_5 form with the nitrogen atom which carries them a non-aromatic heterocyclic of five to seven ring members having 1 to 2 heteroatoms, the elements for completing the heterocycle being independently selected from the group consisting of $-CHR_{10}-$, $-NR_{11}-$, -O- and -S-;

R_6 and R_7 are selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl and alkynyl;

or R_6 is $-NO_2$ and R_7 is hydrogen,

or R_6 and R_7 form with the nitrogen atom which carries them a non-aromatic heterocyclic with five to six ring members, the elements for completing the heterocycle being independently selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-NR_{12}-$, -O- and –S-;

R_8 is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted from one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, -OH, amino, cyano and aryl;

R_9 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, carbocyclic and heterocyclic aralkyl and aryl, the aromatic ring of which is optionally substituted from one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl and ~~alkioxy~~ alkoxy;

R_{10} is selected from a group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aryl optionally substituted from one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting ~~ofp~~ ~~consisting~~ of halogen, alkyl and alkoxy,

R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, $-C(O)R_{13}$, $-C(O)OR_{13}$, $-SO_2R_{13}$, $-C(O)NHR_{13}$ and the aryl and aralkyl, ~~toe~~ the aromatic ring of which is optionally substituted from one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_{12} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or alkyl;

R_{13} is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, haloalkyl and carbocyclic and heterocyclic aralkyl or aryl, the aromatic ring of which is optionally substituted one to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_{14} is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, phenyl and aralkyl; and

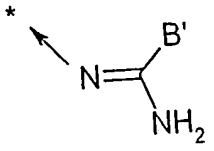
R_{15} is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, phenyl and aralkyl;

it being understood:

- that alkyl or alkoxy, unless otherwise specified, has 1 to 12 carbon atoms;
- that alkenyl or alkynyl, unless otherwise specified, has ~~has~~ 2 to 6 carbon atoms;
- that cycloalkyl, unless otherwise specified, has 3 to 7 carbon atoms;
- and a salt of a compound of formula (I).

Claim 2 (previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein X is a bond or alkylene of 1 to 5 carbon atoms and Y is $-NR_4R_5$; and a salt thereof.

Claim 3 (currently amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein X is a bond or alkylene of 1 to 5 carbon atoms and Y is



;

and a salt thereof.

Claim 4 (currently amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein X is a bond or alkylene of 1 to 5 carbon atoms and Y is cycloalkyl or aryl optionally substituted

one ~~t~~ to 3 times by a member independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, alkyl and alkoxy;

and a salt thereof.

Cancel **Claim 5**.

Claim 6 (currently amended) A compound of claim 1, selected from the group consisting of

- butyl-2-[4-(4-{[(1*Z*)-amino(thien-2-yl)methylene]-amino}phenyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]ethylcarbamate;

- butyl-2-[4-(3-{[(1E)-amino(thien-2-yl)methylene]-amino}phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]ethylcarbamate;

- butyl-2-[4-(4'-{[(1Z)-amino(thien-2-yl)methylene]amino}-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]ethylcarbamate;

- N'-(4-{2-[(cyclohexylamino)methyl]-1H-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[2-(cyclohexylamino)ethyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(3-{2-[(cyclohexylamino)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-[4-(2-{[cyclohexyl(methyl)amino]methyl}-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)phenyl]thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[(dibenzylamino)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[(benzylamino)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{3-[2-(aminomethyl)-1H-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{3-[2-({[(1*E*)-amino(thien-2-yl)methylene]-amino}methyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{4-[2-({[(1*E*)-amino(thien-2-yl)methylene]-amino}methyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N*-{3-[2-(2-cyclohexylethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{3-[2-(1-pentylhexyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{4-[2-(2-cyclohexylethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{3-[2-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{3-[2-(3-cyclohexylpropyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-[3-(2-hexyl-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)phenyl]thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N*-{4-[2-(2-cyclohexylethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}-*N''*-nitroguanidine;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[(cycloheptylamino)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[(methylamino)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[(cyclobutylamino)methyl]-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-[4-(2-{[(2,2-diphenylethyl)amino]methyl}-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)phenyl]thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-{3-[2-(2-{[(1E)-amino(thien-2-yl)methylene]amino}ethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(3-{2-[(phenylthio)methyl]-1H- imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

- *N'*-(4-{2-[(phenylthio)methyl]-1H-imidazol-4-yl}phenyl)thiophene-2-carboximidamide and;

- *N'*-{3-[2-(4-isobutylbenzyl)-1*H*-imidazol-4-yl]phenyl}thiophene-2-carboximidamide;

and a salt thereof.

Claim 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing, as active ingredient, a compound of claim 1; and an inert pharmaceutical ~~compound~~ carrier.

Claims 9 and **10** (cancelled).

Claim 11 (currently amended) The method ~~intended to treat or prevent a disorder/disease selected from the group consisting~~ of treating pain~~, multiple sclerosis, disorders of the central or peripheral nervous system, cardiovascular disorders, disorders of the skeletal muscle and of the neuromuscular joints, inflammatory diseases, hearing losses of traumatic, acoustic or toxic origin and tinnitus, complications linked with auto-immune and viral diseases and the neurological diseases associated with intoxication, treatments and disorders of genetic origin~~ in warm-blooded animals comprising administering to warm-blooded animals in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

Cancel **Claim 12**.